

in the British Museum, with En-
10 vols. 1812.

507.E
Antique Vases, &c., engraved in
Box IV
by Moses.

Ornaments of the Middle Ages,
off. 3 copies. 1840.

othiques de toutes les époques,
par Leconte. 1834.

History and Illustrations of Mr. Palmer's
House, in the Elizabethan style at Yar-
month. 1838.

Old Flemish Architecture
1642.

History and Antiquities
Luton Park, by Shaw.

Gothische's A. B. C. II
2 parts.

Studies from Old En-
Richardson. 2 parts.
Schreibkunst. 1631.

Fragnens d'Ornemens, p
Characteristic Sketches of
Landscer. 1832.

Cours de Dessin Linéair
numbers. 1832.

Atlas du Dessin Linéair
1839.

Examples of Ornamenta
Shaw. 1836.

Designs for the Decora
Cooper. 1807.

Specimens of Gothic Ar-
2 vols. 1822.

Original Geometrical Il-
nett. 1837.

Vorbilder für Fabrikante
1830.

Regal and Ecclesiastical
gland, by Joseph Strutt. 1777.

Encyclopédie Universelle d'Ornemens, par
Clerget. 1 vol.

Ornemens, by Romagnesi. 25 plates. No
title.

Ornemens by Hessemer. No title. Im-
perfect copy.

Principles of Practical Perspective, by Brown.
1835.

Various Ornamental Designs: Locks, Vases,
Candelabra, &c.

Practical Hints on Decorative Printing, by
Savage. 1822.

Gallantries. A work on Ornament. 1715.

Essais de Gravure, par Bourdon. 2 numbers.
1703.

Dessinateur Schule, &c. Von Bötticher.
1839.

Details of Ancient Timber Houses, by Pugin.

Working the Five Orders of Architecture,
by Nicholson. 1830.

Handbuch für Bautechler. Von Romberg.
1837.

Le Dessin Linéaire Enseigné aux Ouvriers,
par Montabert. 2 parts. 1832.

Die Architectonischen Glieder. by Heideloff.
2 numbers. 1834.

Hanbuch für den Bildhauer, Stukator, und
Gipser. By Romberg. 1837.

Der Tuncher, Stuccator, Zimmermaler, und
Heideloff.

Antichi Romani, &c., by

rnaments. Oblong folio.
s, by Moule. 16 numbers.
inet Maker's Darling, by

cal Studies. 1833.
1817.

ata.
, by Hubner. 1840.
get—in a portfolio.

, for Artists. 2 copies.
loured Lithograph Plates
Fruits. German, French,

e subjects by Raphael;
by Gruner.

nemens Antiques, par

Cryptarum Romanorum.

ilaneum and Pompeii, by
12.

erns, in a portfolio.
Indian drawings, &c., in a



FROM THE SCHOOL OF DESIGN TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL ART

THE FIRST YEARS OF THE NATIONAL ART LIBRARY 1837-1853

21 SEPTEMBER - 27 NOVEMBER 1994
NATIONAL ART LIBRARY LANDING
VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM



Collezione de' Migliori ornamenti Antichi.
1831.

Images de Saints et Saintes, par Hans
Burgmaier. 1799.

Illuminated Ornaments, selected from the
Manuscripts of the Middle Ages.

Designs for Gold and Silver Smiths, by Pugin.
1836.

De la Distribution des Maisons de Plaisance,
by Blondel. 1738.

Alfabeto de Lettere Iniziali, by Lorenzi.
Plans et Dessins Nouveaux de Jardinage, par
Bouteux.

Vorübungen zum freihandzeichnen, by Heide-
loff. 1830.

De la loi du contraste simultané des Couleurs,
par Chevreuil. 1839.

Arabesques Antiques des Bains de Lycie, &c.,
par M. Ponce. 1789.

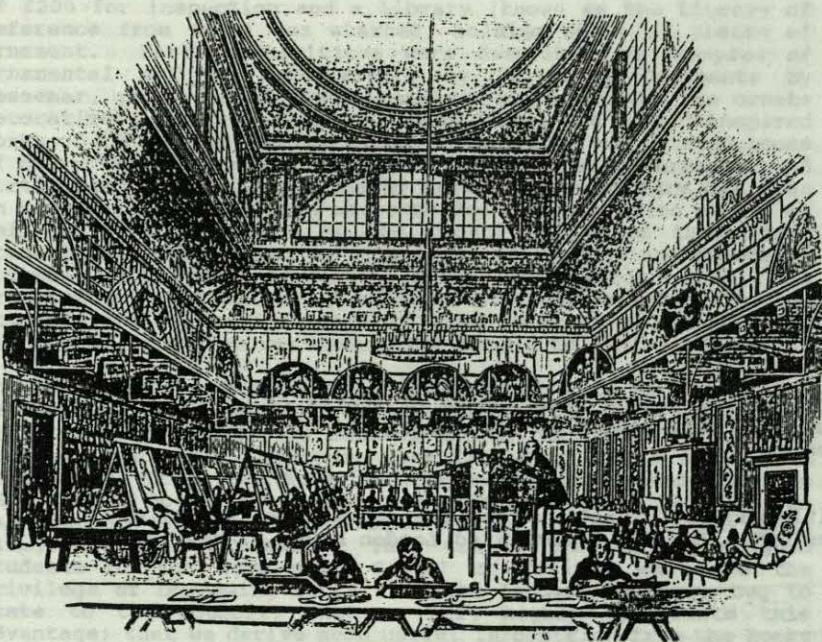
FROM THE SCHOOL OF DESIGN TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

FROM THE SCHOOL OF DESIGN TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL ART

THE FIRST YEARS OF THE NATIONAL ART LIBRARY
1837-1853

1837-1855

The School was opened on 1st January 1877 in rooms recently vacated by the Royal Army Medical Corps, at a cost of £2000 for the building and £1000 for furniture.



SCHOOL OF DESIGN.

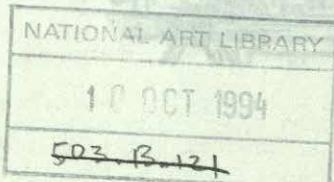
which we are thus permitted to express to the Council our thanks and hearty thanks for this valuable auxiliary means of securing results that are sound and promoting mental improvement (signed by the Secretary) in Boston, 30th, 1846.

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Cover illustration from "Books of Plates of Ornament".
In: The Third Report of the Council of the School of Design

Title page illustration from the "Government School of Design". *In: The Illustrated London News, 27 May 1843*



SO7.E Box IV(121) 2

INTRODUCTION

This display brings together the books, bindings and manuscript sources relating to the Libraries of the Government School of Design, Somerset House, which later became the Library of the Department of Practical Art, Marlborough House. It illustrates the early history of the Victoria and Albert Museum's National Art Library.

The School of Design was established on the recommendation of the 1835 Select Committee on Arts and Manufactures appointed to enquire into the best means of extending a knowledge of the arts and the principles of design among the people. A committee was appointed at the first meeting of the Council of the School of Design on 19 December 1836, to "consider what casts, examples, books, &c." should be provided for use of the School. The Collections and National Art Library of the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Royal College of Art, are the result of these initial considerations.

The School was opened on 1 June 1837 in Somerset House in rooms vacated by the Royal Academy. Books were sent in to the value of £200 for inspection and a Library (known as the Library of Reference from 1843) was started, holding books of plates of ornament. Early acquisitions were described as *Examples of ornamental art in architecture* by Vulliamy, *Ornaments* by Hessemer, and *Greek and Roman capitals* by Hittorff. The ornate decoratively coloured volumes of Owen Jones, the Gothic-inspired works of A W N Pugin and the finely illustrated and printed books of Henry Shaw were among the 150 books of plates of ornament and portfolios of prints acquired by 1844. The Library was open on Saturday mornings; this was extended to one evening a week as well in 1840. Members of the Council, many of them Royal Academicians, were eager to view these often rare and expensive volumes. They were permitted to borrow one book for a week. The practice of cutting out plates to provide examples for the students had already started by 1846 (see item 4) when the Library of Reference was open daily from 3 to 5 o'clock.

The formation of a Lending Library was proposed by Mr H Bellenden Ker in 1841. William Dyce, the second Director (1838-1843), was put in charge of the new Lending Library in 1842. A list of books was made out, bookcases were fitted up in the small room next to the Committee Room, catalogues were prepared, and the 'Register of Books Lent' started on 1 January 1843. Students who had been in the School for three months, or who showed great diligence, were admitted. They wrote: "We the undersigned students of the Government School of Design, who have the privilege of borrowing books from the Lending Library, beg to state to the Council, that we very highly appreciate this advantage; that we derive much useful information from the books which we are thus permitted to use; and that we are desirous to express to the Council our unanimous and hearty thanks for this valuable auxiliary means of acquiring professional knowledge and promoting mental improvement" (signed by 124 students), November 30th, 1846.

The Lending Library contained works on anatomy, architecture, art, painting, sculpture, biography, botany, natural history, geometry and perspective, literature, and wood engraving. The titles of works recommended by the Masters and students were inserted in a memorandum book. Walter Deverell, the School of Design's Secretary from 1842 to 1853, consulted booksellers' catalogues and publishers' advertisements to find good and cheap copies. The books were bound by HMSO, and numbered, with a list of rules pasted in. The 1848 Catalogue of the Lending Library had over 1,000 entries, and many of these were duplicate copies.

Books for both the Library of Reference and the Lending Library were selected by members of the Council and by the Directors. Charles Heath Wilson, the School's third Director (1843-1848), was sent by the Council to the 1844 Paris Exhibition to collect examples of ornamental art including books of plates of ornament. The booksellers Hering & Remington made trips to the Continent to seek the works of Schinkel and Klenze. Purchases were made from Mr Ackermann, Mr Bohn, Mr Weale, Mr Williams, and from the publishers William Pickering, Charles Knight, and Chapman & Hall. The bookroom soon became overcrowded and the volumes damaged. By 1850 few new additions were being made to the Libraries.

In February 1852, Henry Cole, free from his involvement with the Great Exhibition of 1851, was appointed General Superintendent of what he named the Department of Practical Art. Ralph Wornum was made Librarian and Keeper of Casts (1852-1855). Marlborough House was made available, as Somerset House had to be vacated by the School of Design. Mr Cole noted in his diary for 1852 "June 3rd, At Somerset House about Library...August 17th, Somerset House with Mr Deverell & Wornum ordered Books &c., to be removed...August 18th, Mr Wornum suggested that the Lending Library should be at M. Ho:".

The Library opened on 12 October 1852 in three rooms in Marlborough House as part of the Museum of Ornamental Art. It was free to students of the Department, and the public was admitted on the payment of a fee for the first time. It held 500 volumes from the former Library of Reference, some of them mere fragments or text without plates. Also available were two portfolios holding 400 designs and studies by the students, and a press containing 500 prints, drawings and specimens of French paper-hangings. From the Lending Library came 1,000 books, some duplicates, some odd volumes and others nearly destroyed by long usage. These formed the "nucleus of a general Library of Reference for manufactures and all matters illustrating the progress of ornamental art or the development of taste". The collection held books on architecture, sculpture, painted glass, general antiquities and decoration, but was lacking in fine art literature and many of the greater European publications. Mr Wornum began filling in these gaps. When the Department of Practical Art was superseded by the Department of Science and Art in March 1853, the Library held 2,000 volumes.

These first acquisitions by the Government School of Design and the Department of Practical Art represent the core collection, the foundation from which today's National Art Library has developed.

CATALOGUE

Display Case 1

1

POGGI, Mauro

Alfabeto di lettere iniziali inventate e delineate da Mauro Poggi, Scrittore Fiorentino, et incise dall'Abate Lorenzo Lorenzi [Florence?] : [s.n.], [ca. 1750]

Pressmark: 95.H.3 (Prints, Drawings & Paintings Collection)

Inscribed "Presented to the School of Design by W Brockedon Esq., Nov. 5. 1838", this is the first named donation of a book noted in the Minutes of the Council of the Government School of Design. "Mr Eastlake laid before the Meeting a note from Mr Brockedon, in which that gentleman offered, for the acceptance of the Council, a copy of the *Alfabeto di Lettere Iniziali*, by Poggi; and the Superintendent was directed to write to Mr Brockedon, to thank him for his liberality." The volume is included in the 1844 list of Books of Plates of Ornament in the Central School, Somerset House.

2

JONES, Owen

Plate XXIV "Patio de la Mezquita" from *Plans, elevations, sections, and details of the Alhambra*, vol I

London: O. Jones, 1842

This plate, which bears the stamp *School of Design Somerset House*, was cut out for the use of the students. The 104 plates of engravings, lithographs, and chromolithographs, which depict in minute detail the decorative ornaments of the Alhambra Palace, were the most resplendent and advanced of the day. The colour lithographs dated 1836 were amongst the first produced in England. The School of Design was one of 150 subscribers. They included His Late Majesty's Private Library, the King of Prussia, the King of France, civil engineers and architects. Copies were ordered for all the Provincial Schools of Design in the mid-1840s. This volume is included in the 1844 list of Books of Plates of Ornament in the Central School, Somerset House.

3

JONES, Owen

Plate XVIII "Ornament over arches at the entrance to the Court of the Lions" from *Plans, elevations, sections and details of the Alhambra*, vol II

London: O. Jones, 1845

The cut-out plate bears the stamp *School of Design Somerset House*. Mr C H Wilson, the third Director (1843-1848), initiated the practice of removing plates from books in order to provide the students with sufficient examples (see item 4). By 1852, when the Library was relocated to Marlborough House, some of these volumes were reduced to mere fragments or text without plates.

LETTER [Transcript]

Charles Heath Wilson to H B Ker Esq

12 January 1846

In: [Letters from C H Wilson, 1844-1848]

[PRO] V&A, Museum Archive Ed. 84, No. I

Mr Wilson replied about access to the Library of Reference and justified his decision to cut up books in his answer to H Bellenden Ker, an active member of the Council who had proposed the formation of a Lending Library in 1841:

"I have much pleasure in replying to your questions that I am able to assure you that the Pupils have at all times free access to the library of reference in the choice of books they are of course guided by the Director or Masters. The old practice of taking books to look at once a week was given up when I had the honour of submitting my plans for carrying on the course of Instruction.

You may perhaps recollect that I suggested cutting up a number of works and placing the prints loose in portfolios so as to make them more available, as when a Student had a book for an evening requiring one print only perhaps, he prevented many others availing themselves of the other prints - I am quite justified in stating that by this means and by the liberality of the Council in the purchase of examples more than 20 times the number in use when I commenced are now in daily use.

Advanced Pupils have also daily access to the library of reference".

Display Case 2

SHAW, Henry

Examples of ornamental metalwork

London: W. Pickering, 1836

Pressmark: 204.F.3

The plates in this copy are numbered and have a small "S.D" stamp. The title page bears the stamp Department of Practical Art Library. Many of the finely illustrated and printed works of Henry Shaw, illuminator, engraver and antiquary, were published by William Pickering and printed at the Chiswick Press. Shaw's books on Gothic architecture, Luton Park, Ornamental metalwork, Illuminated ornaments, and Dresses and decorations of the Middle Ages were amongst the earliest acquired by the School of Design. This work is included in a list of books, dated June 22nd 1843, to be purchased at the lowest prices for the Schools of Design in Sheffield (opened July 1, 1843), Coventry (opened May 22, 1843) and Nottingham (opened April 3, 1843). It is in the 1844 list of Books of Plates of Ornament in the Central School, Somerset House, and is one of the works mentioned in the 1853 Prospectus which illustrated the special character of the Library.

6 The pages displayed indicate order for a backlog. Item 61
The Lending Library

*In: The Third Report of the Council of the School of Design for
the year 1843-4*
London: HMSO, 1844
Pressmark: AR-F

7 LETTER [Transcript]

C H Wilson to Messrs Hering & Remington
12 November 1844
In: [Letters from C H Wilson, 1844-1848]
[PRO] V&A, Museum Archive Ed. 84, No. I

Large-scale purchasing of books for both the Head School and the Provincial Schools of Design was done in the mid-1840s from Messrs Hering & Remington, booksellers and binders. Mr Hering made frequent trips to the Continent to acquire publications. Mr Wilson requested in this letter works published on the Continent at agreed reduced prices. They included the works of Schinkel and Leo von Klenze's *Koenigsbau* (see item 8).

8

KLENZE, Leo von

Die Decoration der inneren Räume des Koenigsbaues zu München
Vienna: Verlag von Lud. Förster's Artist. Anstalt, 1842

The title page bears the stamp *Department of Practical Art Library*. The work of the German architect Leo von Klenze, in particular the Alte Pinakothek built between 1826 and 1836, was held in high regard by his British contemporaries. He was awarded the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture in 1852. A copy of this book was requested by Mr Wilson for the Head School, Somerset House, from Messrs Hering & Remington in the letter dated 12 November 1844.

9

HEIDELOFF, Carl Alexander von

Architectural ornaments of the Middle Ages, parts I & II
Nuremberg: J A Stein, 1838-1840
Pressmark: 31.B.38

The plates in this copy bear the stamp *School of Design Somerset House*. The seal for stamping books and prints was ordered on 9 March 1841 from Messrs Firmin, who were paid £1. 7s. 0d. This book was included in the list of works for the Norwich School of Design requested by C H Wilson from Messrs Hering and Remington on 16 September 1845 (see item 10). It is in the 1844 list of Books of Plates of Ornament in the Central School, Somerset House, and is one of the works mentioned in the 1853 *Prospectus* which illustrated the special character of the Library.

10

LETTER [Transcript]

C H Wilson to Messrs Hering & Remington

16th September 1845

In: [Letters from C H Wilson, 1844-1848]

[PRO] V&A, Museum Archive Ed. 84, No. I

Books were provided for the Provincial Schools up till 1848 by the Council of the School of Design out of funds voted for the general outfit of the Schools. Included in this list of requests were the magnificent and costly books of plates of ornament of Owen Jones, Friedrich Hessemer, Carl Boetticher and Wilhelm Zahn.

11

Library of Books of Plates for reference in the School and Library of Books lent to be read

In: *The Fourth Report of the Council of the School of Design for the year 1844-5*

London: HMSO, 1845

Pressmark: AR-F

Display Case 3

12

DYCE, William

The Drawing Book of the Government School of Design

London: Chapman and Hall, 1842-43

Pressmark: 99.D.33

Elements from the plate on display were reprinted in an article on the Government School of Design in *The Illustrated London News*, 27 May 1843. The title page has the oblong stamp Department of Practical Art Library.

On 5 June 1837 a committee was appointed to consider whether it would be expedient to publish, at a cheap rate, designs for mechanics and artisans, somewhat similar to the designs published by the Prussian Government. This led to the publication of issues of the *Drawing Book*. The enterprise proved a costly failure and received much criticism. The series of simple line exercises progressing to complicated geometric shapes became, however, the foundation for the teaching of drawing in the Schools of Design.

13

HOLLAND & SONS

Ledger: *Government Contracts, 1846-1849*

AAD 13/217-1983

Holland & Sons carried out refurbishment for both the Government School of Design, Somerset House, and the Department of Practical Art, Marlborough House. In addition to supplying tables, presses and easels, the firm also offered prizes of money for the work of award-winning students of the School.

The pages displayed include an order for a bookcase dated 7 February 1848: "A deal Bookcase 43[ft]. 0" long, 7.4 high, the lower part in 7 courses, forming 3 internal breaks 14" deep in the clear, 2 others 20" deep and 2 end ones 25" deep, each course enclosed by 2 pairs of folding doors... £70.17s.6d".

14

GRUNER, Ludwig

Descriptions of the plates of fresco decorations and stuccoes of churches and palaces in Italy
London: printed for J Murray, P & D Colnaghi, Hering & Remington, J Weale, and L Gruner, 1844

The paper covers of this work have survived intact. An unnumbered 'Rules' of the Lending Library is pasted on the verso of the front cover.

Ludwig [Lewis] Gruner was closely connected with the Government School of Design. He regularly travelled to the Continent to copy examples for use in the School and to acquire books and prints. His book of plates, *Ornamental designs for decoration and manufacture* (1850), was carried out with the help and acknowledgement of the School. Two copies of *Fresco decorations* are in the 1844 list of Books of Plates of Ornament in the Central School, Somerset House.

15

GOVERNMENT SCHOOL OF DESIGN (GREAT BRITAIN)

Catalogue of the Lending Library; comprising works on art, useful knowledge, & miscellaneous literature
London: printed by W Clowes and Sons, 1848
Pressmark: AR-A

The catalogue was prepared for the students by order of the Committee of Management and listed over 1,000 entries which included many duplicate copies. The catalogue was divided into sections on anatomy; architecture; art, painting, and sculpture - general treatises, preceptive, critical, descriptive, and historical; biography; botany, national history; geometry and perspective; miscellaneous literature; wood engraving; and a supplement. A key was printed in the catalogue which linked the book number (the books were kept in numerical sequence on the shelves according to size) with the page and entry number.

16

HAMILTON, William Richard

Letter from W R Hamilton to the Earl of Elgin, on the new Houses of Parliament
London: printed by W Nicol, 1836

A copy of the 'Rules' dated June 1847 was pasted into each book in the Lending Library, with the number of the book clearly marked at the top. This copy is number 560. About 25 books have been traced in the present-day Library that retain this label.

17

BRACE, George
Observations on extension of protection of copyright designs
London: Smith, Elder and Co, 1842

This copy has a contemporary HMSO binding. It is numbered 563 on the 'Rules' of the Lending Library label. The collection of 750 mainly cloth-bound and slightly stitched books in the Lending Library was half-bound in a durable and uniform manner by Her Majesty's Stationery Office in 1846. The books were consecutively numbered and the average cost of binding was not more than a shilling per volume. A number of examples of this binding can be seen in the Library today.

18

PEASE, William
Practical geometry for mechanics and schools
London: [s.n.], 1846
Pressmark: 30.D.23

The title page bears the stamp *School of Design Somerset House*. This example of a simple blind and gold stamped blue cloth binding is one of a few School of Design books to retain its original binding.

Display Case 4

19

EUCLID
The first six books of the elements of Euclid, in which coloured diagrams and symbols are used instead of letters for the greater ease of learners. By O Byrne
London: William Pickering, 1847
Pressmark: G.30.C.32

The title page bears the stamp *Department of Practical Art Library*. This book, the first to be colour printed by Pickering, was awarded a medal at the Great Exhibition of 1851. The Jury noted in the Reports, 1852 "that they strongly regretted...that almost the whole of the printers of England have refrained from exhibiting the beautiful production of their presses, owing to the instructions given to the Local Commissioners, which stated that printed books were inadmissible. However, some fine specimens of good printing seem to have crept in by mere chance" and "the same principle...has deprived the publishers of the opportunity of taking at the Great Exhibition of all Nations, that high position to which their beautiful and carefully edited works would have justly entitled them".

20

HUMPHREYS, Henry Noel
A record of the Black Prince
London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans, 1849
Pressmark: Drawer 69

The title page bears the stamp *Department of Practical Art Library*. The design of the black papier-mâché binding of this illuminated gift book is based on the ornaments on the Prince's tomb in Canterbury Cathedral, and shows the arms of the Black Prince. The effect is heightened by the crimson endpaper which is visible through the pierced cover. Examples of illuminated books and bookbindings by Noel Humphreys were shown at the Great Exhibition of 1851.

21

Journal of Design and Manufactures, vol II

London: Chapman and Hall, 1850

Pressmark: 95.EE.31

Henry Cole addressed his publication to merchants, manufacturers, retail dealers, designers, art-workmen, and the general public. He wrote in the first issue dated March 1849 which sold 1600 copies: "The *Journal of Design* will best prove itself to be a friend of the School of Design by helping to accomplish a complete reformation of it".

The page displayed shows the work of A W N Pugin, a leading architect and designer who promoted the principles of Gothic design and ornament. His books are in the 1844 list of Books of Plates of Ornament in the Central School, Somerset House, and is one of the works mentioned in the 1853 *Prospectus* which illustrated the special character of the Library.

22

Vorbilder für Fabrikanten und Handwerker, part I [Text]

Berlin: Königliche technische Deputation für Gewerbe, 1821-1830

Pressmark: 58.B.66

The title page bears the oblong stamp *Department of Practical Art Library*. This is one of three stamps used. Item 19 shows an oval-shaped stamp. The third stamp is more rounded and omits the word *Library*.

The "Prussian Drawing Book" (1821-1837) was regarded as one of the key publications of the day by the Council of the Government School of Design. Charles Heath Wilson wrote to the Chevalier Bunsen on 26 May 1846: "I trust that your Excellency will permit me to address you upon the subject of procuring from the Prussian Government the celebrated work which it has published upon Ornament...We are informed that the publication of this work has been of the greatest service to the Cause of Ornamental Art in Prussia, that it has been very useful to Manufacturers, has promoted the diffusion generally of a better taste, and has led to great improvement in the application of art to a number of important manufacturers". He wrote again on 31 July 1846: "I beg to acknowledge the receipt...of the bag containing the work called *Model Designs for Manufacturers and Artisans* in two parts which I shall lay before the Council". It is in the 1844 list of Books of Plates of Ornament in the Central School, Somerset House, and is one of the works mentioned in the 1853 *Prospectus* which illustrated the special character of the Library.

23

LETTER

Walter Ruding Deverell to Sir Charles Trevelyan K.C.B.

16 March 1852

In: Board of Trade
V&A, Museum Archive

The Secretary, Walter Deverell, wrote to inform the Treasury that "Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant the temporary use of portions of Marlborough House to the Department of Practical Art, and that it is desirable to take measures to remove there at once the Specimens of Ornamental Manufactures purchased out of the Great Exhibition".

This letter was withdrawn on 22 March 1852 as it was "contrary to etiquette that the Board of Trade should inform the Treasury of any Act of the Queen".

24

Library Receiving Room Diary No. I, 1853-1856
V&A, Museum Archive

The Library was opened in Marlborough House on 12 October 1852. Ralph Wornum, the Librarian and Keeper of Casts 1852-1855, compiled a seven-page 'Mem. of Books recommended by me to be purchased for the department' between October 1852 and April 1853. This showed the date of recommendation, the name and address of the bookseller, the author, title and price of the work, the authorising initials or signature of Henry Cole, and the date ordered. The memorandum was inserted in the Library Receiving Book Diary No. I, 1853-1856.

25

WORNUM, R N

Examples of works illustrating the special character of library
In: *Prospectus of the Library of the Section of Art at Marlborough House*

[London] : HMSO, 1853

Pressmark: VA.1853 Box.0002

Shortly after the formation of the Department of Science and Art in March 1853, Ralph Wornum wrote in the *Prospectus* "such a library, though special, must eventually become one of great magnitude". The list displayed shows examples of works, selected from hundreds, which illustrated the special character of the Library.

APPENDIX

*Minutes of the Council of the Government School of Design
1836-1847*

Selected extracts

December 19th, 1836

- Mr. Thomson explained the necessity for establishing a School of Design in Ornamental Art, in consequence of the present low condition of art in this country.

- A committee was also appointed, consisting of Sir Francis Chantrey, Mr. Calcott, Mr. Cockerell, Mr. Eastlake, and Mr. Papworth, to consider what casts, examples, books, &c. should be provided for use of the School.

April 23rd, 1837

- Secretary and Librarian Mr. Papworth, Jun. [retained until June 18th, 1838]

- Mr. Cockerell reported that the Committee...had ordered... books for inspection, but that they had not yet been able to report formally thereon.

April 27th, 1837

At a meeting of the Committee on the Museum of the School of Design.

- The Director was authorised to send in books, &c., to about the value of £200...for inspection.

May 14th, 1837

- It was resolved that the School be opened on Thursday, June 1st, 1837.

June 5th, 1837

- A committee was appointed...to consider whether it would be expedient to publish, at a cheap rate, designs for mechanics and artisans, somewhat similar to the designs in the work published by the Prussian Government.

July 7th, 1837

At a meeting of the Committee on the Museum of the School of Design.

- The committee inspected the works of art submitted to them, and ordered several books.

September 4th, 1837

At a meeting of the Committee on the Museum of the School of Design.

- Vulliamy's Examples of Ornamental Art in Architecture was recommended for purchase.

- The following sums were ordered to be paid:- Mr. Weale, for books £4.4.0, Mr. Williams, for books £6.12.6.

November 6th 1837

- The following sums were ordered to be paid:- Mr. Williams, for books £2.17.0.

October 1st, 1838

October 1st, 1838

- The two following works were ordered to be purchased from Mr. Williams:- Hessemer's Ornaments, No. 5; Hiddorf's [Hittorff's] Greek and Roman Capitals.

November 5th, 1838

- Mr. Eastlake laid before the Meeting a note from Mr. Brockedon, in which that gentleman offered, for the acceptance of the Council, a copy of the "Alfabeto di Lettere Iniziali," by Poggi; and the Superintendent was directed to write to Mr. Brockedon, to thank him for his liberality.

December 2nd, 1839

- In the meantime the Council, on the motion of Mr. Ker, resolved to appropriate the sum of £10, to be spent on Books, &c., as rewards to those students who had been remarkable for good conduct and attention in their studies.

January 13th, 1840

- It was ordered that, in future, the books of the Library should be accessible to the Students of the Evening School on one Evening every week, as well as on the morning of Saturday, as heretofore.

June 1st, 1840

- Thanks were voted to G. Field, Esq., for the donation to the Library of his work entitled The Analogy of the Sciences.

- It was resolved, that any Member of the Council shall have access to the Library during school hours, and have the privilege of borrowing any one book from the Library for one week, upon signing a receipt for the same.

November 3rd, 1840

- A letter was read from the Trustees of the British Museum, announcing the donation to the Library of the work published by them.

- A letter was read from Mr. George Field, presenting a copy of his work on Harmony of Colors.

January 12th, 1841

- It was resolved that £50 be expended in the purchase of books of prints, by the Committee on Publication.

March 9th, 1841

- Mr. Dyce was requested to report...what progress had been effected in the elementary Drawing Book, since the 15th of April, 1840.

- The Committee on Publication was requested to report quarterly the progress made in publishing the Drawing Book.

- A seal was ordered for stamping the books, prints, &c.

April 20th, 1841

- Mr. Ker gave notice of a motion to form a Lending Library, for the use of the Students.

May 4th, 1841

- On the motion of Mr. Ker, it was agreed that £20 be expended in the purchase of books relating to Art, to form a Lending

Library for the Students. The catalogue of the books to be prepared for printing.

June 22nd, 1841

- It was ordered that a list of books, prints...belonging to the School, should be made out, and that such a list should be authenticated by a comparison with the paid bills, and accounts relating thereto.

August 23rd, 1841

- His Royal Highness Prince Albert then distributed the prizes...and also rewards of books to the Students.

November 17th, 1841

- Mr. Dyce submitted the following list of books, which he recommended the Council to purchase for the School:-

Pugin's Principles of Pointed Architecture, 16s

Shaw's Luton Chapel, 11.5s

Savage, on Decorative Printing.

Account of a House at Yarmouth.

"Vetusta Monumenta", published by the Society of Antiquaries.

Shaw's Ornaments, &c. of the Middle Ages, now publishing in parts.

Mr. Eastlake's translation of Goethe's Theory of Colors.

The Council authorised the purchase of these books, with the exception of the expensive work published by the Society of Antiquaries. Mr. Cockerell and Mr. Blore being Members of the Antiquarian Society, offered to use their influence to obtain a copy of this work from the Society, for the use of the School.

- The following payments were ordered to be made:-

Messrs. Firmin, for Seal f1 7s 0d

Mr. Bohn, for Books f5 14s 0d

Mr. Willis, for Books f5 12s 9d

February 2nd, 1842

- The Council resolved, on the motion of Mr. Ker, that a small Lending Library be established for the use of the pupils, and that a sum not exceeding £20 be placed in the hands of Mr. Dyce for the purchase of books.

March 2nd, 1842

- That Mr. Dyce had prepared a list of books for the Lending Library.

- That the more advanced Students very highly appreciated the advantage of borrowing books.

- That it was desirable to apply £50 to this purpose.

- That, for the Library of the School, Mr. Ker had recommended to be purchased:-

Richardson's Elizabethan Ornaments

The Nibelungenlied

A Work on Two Windows of Stained Glass, lately executed at Munich for the Au-Kirche

- To which Mr. Dyce recommended to be added:-

Stothard's Monumental Effigies

Blore's Monumental Remains of Great Britain

Part First of Mr. Richardson's Work

- Mr. Dyce then proceeded to report on his proceedings in the preparation of the Drawing Book.

- The usual salaries, petty cash expenses, and the following accounts, were ordered to be paid:-

Mr. Ackermann, for Books f10 11s 0d

- It was ordered that the sum to be appropriated for the purchase of books for the Lending Library be increased from £20 to £30; and that bookcases be fitted up in the small room anterior to the Committee room.

June 1st, 1842

- The first number of the Drawing Book was published this day, and on the 1st of August would appear the second part...the 3rd number to be published on the 1st of October.

June 15th, 1842

- Duties of the Director...

11. To superintend the Lending Library.

- The Council approved of the following purchases for the use of the School:-

Braun, Recueil de Dessins f8 0s 0d

Souvenir de l'Exposition de 1839 f5 5s 0d

- Duties of the Secretary

11. To prepare and keep up the following books:-

Catalogue of the Lending Library

Catalogues of other Books belonging to the School

July 5th, 1842

- The following payments were ordered to be made:-

Lloyd, Bookbinding f25 9s 0d

Balliere, Books f 5 5s 0d

November 1st, 1842

- The Council ordered to be purchased for the use of the [Female] School:-

Richardson's Remains of Domestic Architecture, Queen Elizabeth, 2 vols., price f4 4s.

Gruner's Villa Madama; 2 copies, one colored, one uncolored.

Raphael's Mosaics.

November 8th, 1842

- That the Clerk be directed to make a catalogue of the Lending Library; and that the books thereof be immediately lent out to the Pupils, subject to such regulations as Mr. Dyce may approve.

November 29th, 1842

- That a copy of the Drawing Book shall be supplied by the publishers to each Member of the Council.

- That fifty copies of the Elementary Drawing Book be purchased for the use of the Schools at Somerset House and Spitalfields, and that copies be also supplied to each of the Provincial Schools which are already, or may hereafter, be established.

December 6th, 1842

- The following payments were ordered to be made...as soon as the bills have been examined and approved:-

Mr. Pickering, for Shawls, Dresses, &c. £5 15s 6d
[Mr. Pickering, bookseller, for a book called "Shaw's Dresses and Decorations of the Middle Ages"]
Messrs. Black and Armstrong,
for Books on Ornament £15 15s 0d

- It was ordered that Pugin's work on Gothic Ornament be purchased at £2 10s.

January 10th, 1843

- It was desirable to purchase a work entitled Charpente de la Cathédrale de Messine.

March 7th, 1843

- I [Mr. Dyce] beg to recommend to the Council, for purchase, the following works, viz.:-

1. Gothic A.B.C. Book, price £2.2s (one part of this is already in the Library)
2. Billing's Panelling of Carlisle Cathedral, price 15s.
3. Monumens des Art Liberaux, Mecaniques, et Industriels, de la France, par Lenoir, folio, price £2.2s.
4. Gothic Tiles, by Nichols, 5s. per number.

The third of these works contains explanatory accounts of several of the ancient monuments from which the specimens of middle-age ornaments recently procured from Paris, are moulded.

May 9th, 1843

- A letter, dated May 2nd, 1843...from Mr. Charles Heath Wilson, of Edinburgh, expressing his acceptance of the office of Director.

- The following Accounts and Cheques were examined and approved:-

Mr. Willis, for Books	£2. 10s 0d
Mr. Ackermann, for Books	£8. 1s 3d
Mr. Dyce, two books	£1. 10s 0d

July 4th, 1843

- Rules for Students

32. From the Lending Library the Students will be permitted to borrow books, one volume at a time, to be retained one week. For every day that a book is kept beyond that time, the Student will be fined one penny; and if the book is in any way injured, he must replace it.

- Lending Library

37. To be managed by a Committee formed of one Exhibitioner and two other Students; to attend every Friday evening to give out the books, receive those lent, and enter the names of borrowers in the Library Book.

- Books containing Examples, and Publications on Art.

38. These, in general, to be used only by the Students in the highest classes, and at times fixed by the Director; but other Students to be allowed to inspect them, at the discretion of the Director.

[Also on July 4th] Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee on Correspondence on June 22nd, 1843...were confirmed.

- The list of books furnished by Sir R. Westmacott, for the Provincial Schools, having been read over, it was ordered that Mr. Wilson and Mr. Deverell do purchase, at the lowest prices for which good copies can be procured, and send forthwith, to the Schools of Sheffield, Coventry, and Nottingham, the following collection of works: permission being given to Mr. Wilson to omit any herein enumerated which, on inspection, he may consider to be not sufficiently useful or suitable, or to add any others from Sir R. Westmacott's list, so that the cost of the collection to be sent at present do not exceed the sum of £40 to each School.

List of Books

Album D'Ornamentiste.	Eleven numbers of Moyen Age Monumental.
Von Klenze's Architectural Ornaments.	Furniture of Middle Age.
Bridgen's Furniture and Candelabra.	Jolliment's Ornaments of the 14th, 15th, and 16th Centuries.
Menzel's Arabesques.	Shaw's Encyclopaedia of Ornaments.
Clerget's Ornaments.	Botticher's Book of Ornaments.
Ditto ditto, colored	Tatham's Ornaments.
Percier and Fontaine, Furniture.	Vulliamy's ditto.
Pugin's Brass and Iron Work.	Lardner's Encyclopaedia - Treatises on Porcelain, Glass, and Silk Manufactures.
Glossary of Architecture.	Arabesques of Raphael in the Vatican Loggie.
Shaw's Metal Work.	
Lardner's Encyclopaedia - Treatises on Metals, 3 vols.	

[Also on July 4th] Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee on Finance on June 27th, 1843 were...confirmed.

- It was ordered that the same books which were ordered by the Correspondence Committee to be supplied to the Provincial Schools, be supplied also to the School at Spitalfields, under the direction of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Deverell.

- On the proposition of Mr. Ker, it was resolved that Mr. Wilson...prepare...a report...[which will] include an especial statement of the present extent, condition and utility, of the collection of books of plates for reference, and those for lending, with any suggestions which Mr. Wilson may have to present, with a view to increasing their extent and present utility.

- An application was read, from Mr. Lipsham, for some remuneration for attending twice a week in the evening, during twenty-one weeks, to distribute and register books lent to the Students; and it was referred to the judgement of Mr. Lefevre to determine upon the proper amount to be paid.

- It was ordered that a copy of Hittorff's work on Sicilian Architecture in the Middle Ages, be purchased at £3.13.6d.

August 1st, 1843

- Messrs. Ackermann, for Books, &c. f 5 13 8
Mr. Sprigg, for Books f 5 6 0
Messrs. Hering and Remington for Books
for Provincial Schools f 82 14 0
Mr. Weale, ditto ditto f 19 19 0
- Commission to purchase Books and Specimens.

Mr. Hering, bookseller, is about to proceed to Germany and France; and I beg to suggest that a sum be placed at my disposal to enable me to purchase, through Mr. Hering's agency, several works on Ornament for the Metropolitan and Provincial Schools; also specimens of stained glass at Nuremberg, and patterns of silks, in Augsburg and Paris.

- The Lending Library consists at present of 119 volumes being chiefly works on art. It is not possible to estimate too highly the value of a good Library, as a part of such an establishment as the School of Design, and I feel anxious that the present limited collection should be enlarged. I believe it to be my duty to impress upon the Students the necessity of reading industriously whenever they have time, especially those books which treat more particularly of the arts they are studying in the School. It appears to me necessary that the Exhibitioners should study the history of Ornamental Art, and the subjects connected therewith. Under this impression, I would beg to propose the formation of a Reading Room in connection with the School. It is, in fact, the suggestion of my friend Mr. Deverell, who further proposes that the Exhibitioners should be encouraged to study daily in such a room, to make extracts and, as a means of further improvement, to write exercises on subjects connected with their studies. Nearly all the books which at first would be required, are proposed to be lent from the collection belonging to myself, and from that of Mr. Deverell, who offers his valuable assistance and advice; and it will afford me great pleasure to aid as much as possible in this undertaking, should the proposition be deemed worthy of further consideration by the Council.

(Signed)

C. H. WILSON,
Director.

- Copies of the following books were inspected, and were ordered to be purchased:-

	f	s	d
Architectural Arabesques by Coste	6	0	0
Sepulchral Monuments of Rome	3	3	0
Julien's Lithographic Ornaments	0	12	0
Ditto	0	9	0
Polisch's Studies of Ornament	0	6	0
Rossari's Ornaments (two copies)	4	0	0
Simson's Anatomy	2	2	0
Villa Pia	2	2	0
Carpentry of the Cathedral of Messina	2	12	6

August 8th, 1843

- It was ordered, that a copy of Mr. Gruner's illustrated work on Architectural Ornament, be purchased; and that Mr. Wilson procure from Mr. Gruner an estimate of the cost of making copies from cathedral architecture on the continent.

October 3rd, 1843

		f	s	d
-	Messers. Hering and Remington for Books	54	5	0
	Messers. Bartlett and Co. sent to the	18	18	0
	Mr. Evans Provincial	19	4	6
	Mr. Boys Schools,	2	2	0
-	That £10 be advanced to Mr. Wilson, to purchase, for the use of the Schools, such desirable books as may occasionally be met with during the intervals of the Meetings.			
-	Lending Library			

At the suggestion of Mr. Ker, I have ordered the Athenaeum, Art Union, Builder, and Artists' Magazine, to be sent in for the use of the School. The Lending Library contains very few works: I am anxious to be permitted to add to it from time to time. There are several works upon Art which I think ought to be procured I would at present suggest, Wilkinson's Ancient Egyptians, Willis's Architecture of the Middle Ages, Rickman's Architecture, Forsyth's Italy, the volumes of the Architect's Journal hitherto published, Schlegel's Lectures on Literature, the Penny Cyclopaedia, Hope on Architecture, the Life of Lorenzo de Medici, Life of Leo X., Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting, Essays on the History of Painting, Lectures on Architecture and Painting, and several other works of the same description; also, translations of some of the ancient Classics.

- Purchase of Books on inspection
I submit for the inspection of the Council the following works, and recommend that they be purchased:-

	f	s	d
Ancient and Modern Architecture (per part)	0	4	0
Arabesche, &c.	5	2	0
Racolta di Vasi Targhe	1	10	0
Animals by Landseer	1	10	0
Simson's Anatomy	0	12	0

November 7th, 1843

- In relation to the payment (£54. 13s 6d) for specimens of ornaments and books selected by Mr. Ker, in Paris, the following letter from that gentleman to Mr. Wilson was read:-

...I also made a large selection of Books of Ornament. If unluckily any are already in our Library, these will do to send to some of the Provincial Schools; taking a large quantity, I obtained a discount of fifteen per cent on the selling price.

December 5th, 1843

	f	s	d	
-	Mr. Bickers, for Books for Lending Library	7	1	6
	Mr. Cobett, Ditto Ditto	18	13	8
	Mr. Ackermann, for Books and Plates	2	16	2
	Art Union Journal, Nos. 1 to 59	2	6	8
	Mr. Bohn, for Monumenti d'Italia	5	5	0
-	The number of Students who are reading the books from the Lending Library is seventy-two.			
-	As authorised by the Council I have ordered the works recommended by Mr. Eastlake viz., Vies des Peintres par Landon, and Flaxman's Designs from Hesiod. In addition I beg to recommend:-			

	f	s	d
Basilicas of Rome, by the Chevalier Bunsen	1	10	0
The Tombs of Italy, 2 vols.	5	5	0
American Flowers, 5 parts	8	0	0
New Ornaments, by Clerget	0	18	0

(signed)

C. H. Wilson, Director

- A letter, dated November 24th, was read from the Coventry School announcing the adoption of the enjoined Rules, and applying for a collection of books to form a Lending Library for the Students.

February 6th, 1844

- The following Accounts were examined and approved:-

	f	s	d
Messrs. Hering and Remington, for Books for the Provincial Schools and Somerset House	213	15	6
Mr. Pickering, for Books of Ornament	4	13	0
Messrs. Chapman and Hall, for Books on Fresco	19	2	
Mr. Henry Bohn, for Book of Ornament	1	1	0

March 5th, 1844

- A letter, dated the 4th instant, was read from the Committee of the Manchester School, stating that the advantages of a Lending Library was desired for the use of the Students, and requesting the Council to sanction the purchase of a collection of suitable books, of which a list was enclosed.

- Report of Mr. Wilson, Director,....on his visit to the Provincial Schools of Coventry, Birmingham, Manchester, York, Newcastle, Sheffield, and Nottingham.

- All the Committees are desirous of having a few good works on art, and on the subjects and facts which illustrate and furnish materials for it, to form small libraries for the use of the Masters and Students. The Masters express a very strong desire to have books on art to read; and the Committees think that if the privilege of reading such books was made a reward of study attendance and of progress, it would prove a great incentive to the Students.

March 5th, 1844

Finance Committee

- The following Accounts were examined and approved:-

	f	s	d
Mr. Hering, Books of Ornament and Stained Glass	43	4	6
Mr. Nutt, for Bookbinding	2	11	6
Mr. Bickers, Books for the Library at Somerset House	8	0	3
Mr. Stibbs, ditto at Spitalfields School	2	14	0

February 4th, 1845

Lending Library

- The Office of Woods has recently improved the Book Room by fitting up shelves with glazed sashes, and by putting up a gas light. All Students who apply to have books are admitted to the

Library, excepting a few whose conduct or progress is not satisfactory. The number usually averages about seventy.

- As the Library, with very slight exception, has received no additions during the last twelve months, I have lately, with the assistance of Mr. Deverell, selected books to the amount of £14.18s.6d., the purchase of which I recommend the Council to confirm, with reference to a Minute of October 3, 1843, which sanctions an advance to me, to the amount of £10, for the occasional purchase of desirable books, between the meetings of the Council. I also recommend for purchase,

Cours de Dessin Linéaire	£1 16 0
And Traité des Arts Céramiques	0 12 0

- That the purchase of the books selected by Mr. Wilson and Mr. Deverell, for the Lending Library, amounting to £14.18s.6d., be sanctioned: also, the purchase of Lamotte's "Cours de Dessin Linéaire," 12s., and Bongniart's "Traité des Poteries," £1. 16s., from Mr. Bailliere.

- Instructions were given to Mr. Deverell to report, at the next Meeting, on the state and utility of the Lending Library; and as to what further additions of books may be required to render it more efficiently serviceable to the students.

March 4th, 1845

- Mr. Deverell reported as follows, on the state...of the Lending Library.

- Progress:- The Register of books lent commences in January 1843 at which time it appears the Library was opened.

- Since that period the applications for books to read have been constantly becoming more numerous, so that, in the course of the two years during which the Library has been open, the number of volumes lent out weekly has gradually increased from five to one hundred and five.

- Number of Books:- In April 1844 the Library consisted of one hundred and fifty works, the titles of which were printed in the last Annual Report of the Council.

- Since that period fifty-six works have been added to the collection of which number the purchase of fifty was authorised at the last meeting of the Council.

- At the commencement of January, I carefully compared the whole of the volumes in the Library with the Catalogue, and found the eleven were missing, three of which have subsequently been returned by students, and two by the Masters.

- Management:- During the great portion of the past year the charge of the Library was committed to the Class of Exhibitioners, who collectively were required to attend to all the arrangements necessary to be observed in managing the registry and circulation of the books: but, as in every case where responsibility rests on no one in particular, each one appears to have relied upon the care and attention of his colleagues, the consequence of which soon appeared in a disorderly and neglected state of the books, and the records relating to them.

- When, on the commencement of the present session in October, the Exhibitioners were discontinued as teachers, and were replaced by the Assistant-Masters, they ceased to give any attention to the circulation of the books; and the Clerk was called upon by the Director to attend every Friday evening, to receive and give them out.

- This temporary and defective arrangement continued to the end of December, when, with the view of effecting some improvement which appeared to me to be demanded, I requested the Clerk of Works of the Office of Woods to furnish the means of locking up the books on the shelves, it being otherwise impossible to substitute order for confusion in a small ante-room, constantly open as a passage to the offices within. Accordingly, during the Christmas vacation, twelve sliding glazed frames, with a lock upon each, were put up before the shelves, a convenient ladder with carpeted steps was provided, and the room was efficiently lighted by gas from the ceiling. All the volumes which are not lent are now locked up, and I have taken charge of the key, under a conviction that the safe custody and preservation of the books, and the observance of accuracy and method in distributing them, are impracticable, unless the care of the library be undertaken entirely by one individual.

- During the last month I have myself given out the volumes which have been lent, and can therefore speak from personal knowledge of the intelligent interest which is manifested by the students in reading the books, and of the eagerness with which they avail themselves of the privilege of borrowing them.

- Method proposed:- In order to avoid the great inconvenience and disturbance which, on the nights for giving out the books, have hitherto been caused by the students impatiently crowding into the book-room, I have bestowed some pains in devising the following arrangements, which I believe will obviate all difficulties, and ensure regularity and precision in working the Library:-

1. The books to be labelled in the back, 1, 2, 3, &c., as they stand on the shelves, from the first to the last in the collection.
2. Printed copies of the Catalogue to be distributed in the School, exhibiting the number of each volume prefixed to its title; and a brief explanatory note wherever the title is not sufficiently explicit to enable the student to form a right conception of the nature and design of the work.
3. Printed copies of a blank form of application to be distributed in the School; on which every applicant is to insert his name and residence, with the day of the month, and the number of the volume required.
4. The filled-up forms of application to be conveyed, with the returned books, to the keeper of the Library, every Thursday, by the School Attendant, who on every Friday will deliver to each student in his place in the School, the book required - so as to obviate all necessity for the personal attendance of the students in the book-room.
5. A printed copy of the...Rules to be pasted on the cover of each volume, and to be inserted at the head of the Catalogue:-

- I subjoin a List of Books which, in order, to increase the efficiency of the Library, it is desirable to procure; and I beg to recommend-

1. That duplicate copies of the works most in request, and copies of such other works as are well adapted to be serviceable in promoting the peculiar objects of the students, be purchased on the lowest terms, to the amount of £20.

2. That the volumes in the Library which, for their preservation, require binding, be bound in a cheap and strong style by the Government Binder to the Stationery Office.
3. That at each Monthly Meeting of the Council a Report on the Library be presented, according to the following form:-

Monthly Report to the Council on the Lending Library,
For the Month ending 1845.

Number of students admitted to use the volumes.

Number of volumes lent during the month.

Number of fines incurred for not returning books according to the Rules.

Present number of volumes in the Library.

Additional books which it is desirable to procure.

January 13th, 1846

- A Report which, at the request of Mr. Ker, Mr. Deverell had prepared on the present state and management of the Lending Library, showing the weekly number of issues during the last year, was laid on the table, with a complete printed Catalogue of the Books (700 volumes).

July 28th, 1846

- It was ordered, that the books of plates in the Library of Reference be given out, daily, from 3 to 5 o'clock, to students of the morning and evening classes, who may attend at that time to make proper use of these works in the rooms of the School.

November 3rd, 1846

- The catalogue of the books and prints is almost complete. I have employed Mr. Walsh, of the Spitalfields School, to assist me, as he reads French, Italian, and German, and can therefore consult the necessary works; and I have suggested £10. 10s. as his reward for this undertaking.

- As to our books, I could at once complete this portion, if the Council will allow a binder to repair and put them in order, and to number and title them; without this I cannot finish it.

- I have to report that, in harmony with my instructions, I placed the following notice upon the doors at the beginning of this session:-

The attention of advanced students is drawn to the Library of Reference, consisting of a number of very fine works of art. With a view to the extension of its utility, it is proposed to admit students to the free use of this library daily, at three o'clock.

December 1st, 1846

- A catalogue of books, prepared by the clerk to Messers. Hering and Remington.

- A catalogue of books and prints, prepared, with my [C.H. Wilson] assistance, by my clerk, Mr. Comyns.

- The following Report from Mr. Deverell on the Lending Library, which was laid on the table in January last, was ordered to be printed in the Minutes, with the supplementary statements extending it to the present time.

...Not only in the Head School, but in the Branch Schools in which Lending Libraries have been formed, the privilege of

borrowing books to read at home is very highly appreciated. ... It appears that the average weekly number of issues was sixty-three throughout the whole period of thirty-five weeks [March 7 - December 19, 1845].

... The number on the list of students who, in accordance with the rules, are privileged to use the Library, is at present eighty-five, the whole number on the attendance books being 212.

The rules enjoin that the books shall be lent to those students only who have attended the School at least three months, whose progress in their studies is satisfactory, and who are attentive and well conducted. However, with the view of increasing the usefulness of the Library, admission is, in some cases, granted to those who for a less period have given evidence of good intentions.

... I have lately examined every volume in the collection, and am enabled to state, that not more than three or four have sustained any damage; and it appears to me to be due to remark, that the state of their preservation, considered with regard to their constant use, is highly creditable to the readers.

The details of giving out and receiving back the books, so as to ensure correctness and regularity, demand of course some considerable time and attention every week; but, as I found that enforcing observance of the rule for levying on each offender a daily fine did not abridge this labor, but, on the contrary, occasioned additional trouble to myself, and vexation to the students, I substituted an appeal to their sense of honor as a better mode of obtaining compliance with the Rules; and this alteration I have had no reasons to regret. At the present time the whole number of volumes which are unaccountably missing, including six which were not to be found in April last, is eleven; so that five have disappeared in the course of the last year. Should these not be returned or be found hereafter, they can be replaced for less than 20s. The room in which the books are kept being in fact an open passage, it is impossible to prevent loss entirely. The whole collection consists at present of 750 volumes; and as many of them were in cloth boards, and but slightly stitched, and it was necessary for their preservation to have them strongly bound, I sent nearly the whole to Her Majesty's Stationery Office, to be half bound in a durable and uniform manner, and consecutively numbered; the average cost of binding being not more than a shilling per volume. An additional bookcase has been supplied by the Office of Woods for the larger volumes; and the whole are now methodically arranged and locked up.

During the autumn vacation of last year I prepared and printed a complete catalogue, copies of which have since been distributed to, and used by, all the students. It will be seen that the books have been selected as much as possible with regard to their adaptation to the pursuits of the readers as students of the School of Design, and with the view of their being all more or less serviceable in furnishing the kinds of knowledge which it is the interest of such students to acquire, that is, knowledge either directly relative to their professional employments, or collaterally associated with the study of art, and conducive to mental elevation and refinement. To this end have been provided critical essays on Beauty, Taste, and Imagination; the works of some of the great descriptive Poets; criticisms on works of art, descriptive Catalogues of the

principal Galleries of Painting and Sculpture, elementary works on Botany and Natural History, Tours in Italy and other countries, describing the beautiful in nature and art; and, for the excitement of emulation, Biographies of Artists and others, who by genius and perseverance have acquired honorable distinction. A few works for general reference have been found to be useful, such as the Cyclopaedia of the Useful Knowledge Society, Chambers's Information for the People, Dictionaries of Classical Antiquities and Mythology, of Modern Geography and Topography, of Biography, Technical Terms, &c. The collection contains many interesting and valuable treatises on the history, theoretic principles, and practice, of Fine Art in general: besides various elementary manuals, on Architecture, Practical Geometry, Optics, Perspective, Anatomy, and every obtainable work on the application of art to manufactures and decoration; but special works on Ornamental Art are of such rare occurrence in English literature that, although only a small number of the students are able to read French, it has appeared desirable to procure a few of the numerous works on art in its various applications which exist in that language. And here it is proper to make mention, that the Masters no less than the students, make use of this Library.

Several works, the subjects of which were but remotely if at all related to the pursuits of the students, such as those of Thucydides, and Tacitus, I have exchanged for books in constant demand. From the more intelligent students I have always invited suggestions as to desirable new works in the Library, and some of the best books in the collection have been procured on their recommendations; but the better to ascertain what works are sought after and considered desirable by the Masters and students, I have placed in the hands of one of the School Attendants a memorandum book, as suggested by Mr. Ker, for the insertion of the titles of works which are recommended. W.R.D.

November 30th, 1846

- The foregoing Report, which was laid on the table in January last, I again present at the request of Mr. Ker, with such additional statements as will serve to extend the account to the present time.

Throughout the year which has subsequently transpired, the number of volumes issued weekly has varied from seventy to ninety-five...The number of students now using the Library is 124. Since the catalogue was printed, containing 750 volumes, about 100 new works and duplicates have been added, comprising many valuable recent publications on art and artists; and the Catalogue, of which 500 copies were printed a year ago, being now out print, a new edition of it, arranged in alphabetic order, is about to be issued.

The Library has been removed to three closets in the large room, which have been formed for the purpose in the unused recesses of closed windows. The distribution of the books is made after school hours; and they are allowed to be kept a fortnight: arrangements which are found to be most convenient and satisfactory.

...I have bestowed much care in looking over bookseller's catalogues, and publishers' advertisements, to find good and cheap copies of appropriate reading books for lending in the Head School, and in the Branch Schools, eight of which already possess

libraries of this description, namely, the Schools at Spitalfields, Sheffield, Manchester, York, Birmingham, Nottingham, Glasgow, Norwich. In the execution of the resolution of the Council to grant to the Female School a small collection of books, I have selected about 150 volumes, of which Mrs. M'Ian approves; and have sent them to be cheaply bound, in compliance with her wishes. I have also procured from the Office of Woods a convenient bookcase for their preservation.

The greatly increasing public demand for all works on art, and the consequent difficulty of now procuring copies of many which a few years ago were without market value - unread, and unsought for - is a remarkable fact that indicates the great degree of attention which art, in all its applications, is attracting at the present time. It is also worthy of remark that, to meet this general demand, publishers are reprinting many standard works on art and artists, at prices which ensure very extensive sales; for instance, Dupper's Life of Michael Angelo, and DeQuincy's Life of Rafaelle - together for 3s.; and at the same price Roscoe's edition of the life of Benvenuto Cellini; Dr. Waagen's Life of Rubens, &c.

To what has been said on former occasions with regard to the usefulness of the Lending Library, I may state that many of the students, who appear to address themselves earnestly to the task of self-instruction, tell me that, on the history, principles, and description of the examples of art, they find the study of the books thus lent to them the principal means which the School affords for acquiring that explanatory information and critical knowledge, of which they feel the value and want: and I trust I am at liberty to add the testimony of Mr. Eastlake, who states that "You are doing real good by this liberal plan of lending books on art." - (Letter to Mr. Ker, March 2nd, 1846.) Of several works recommended by Mr. Eastlake I have as yet been able to obtain only one, namely, Russel on Crayon Painting.

As the best indication of the sentiments of the students, I present the following general expression of their thanks to the Council:-

November 30th, 1846

We the undersigned students of the Government School of Design, who have the privilege of borrowing books from the Lending Library, beg to state to the Council, that we very highly appreciate this advantage; that we derive much useful information from the books which we are thus permitted to use; and that we are desirous to express to the Council our unanimous and hearty thanks for this valuable auxiliary means of acquiring professional knowledge and promoting mental improvement.

(Signed by 124 students)
W. R. D.

In regard to the Lending Library, it was ordered that a remuneration of 10s. a month be given to Mr. Gaunt, for his services in attending to the distribution and registering of the Books.

[Note: the spelling of names has been standardised]

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